

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 are allowed and claims 7-9 are rejected.

Claims 7-9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,862,169 to Kuroyanagi.

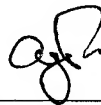
In response, Applicants cancel claims 7-9 to thereby obviate the foregoing rejection.

Withdrawal of all rejections and allowance of claims 1-6 is earnestly solicited.

In the event that the Examiner believes that it may be helpful to advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the local Washington, D.C. telephone number indicated below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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